

House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Ryan Announces Passage of Legislation to Benefit Darien Club



Hartford- State Rep. John J. Ryan, R-Darien, announced that legislation allowing social clubs in the state to conduct bazaars or raffles for fundraising purposes, received final legislative approval in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, May 4. Senate Bill 156, which Rep. Ryan cosponsored, now goes to Governor M.

Jodi Rell for final approval.

Introduced at the request of the Piedmont Club, of Darien, the legislation was supported by Rep. Ryan as a member of the Legislature's Public Safety and Security Committee. The club uses its annual car raffle to raise a substantial portion of the club's operating expenses and SB 156 will permit the raffle to continue under recent revisions to state regulations.

"I'm very pleased that we were all able to cooperate, including Attorney General Blumenthal, in getting this legislation passed," said Representative John Ryan. "It will be a great benefit, not only for the Piedmont Club in Darien, but for many other clubs and organizations that do so much good work for charitable causes in our area."

"I'm pleased that Rep. Ryan and the House believe, as I do, that there is a very legitimate reason to help keep these clubs open," said Sen. Bob Duff, D-Norwalk. "Groups like The Piedmont Club help the Red Cross and AmeriCares, donate scholarships to local students, and contribute greatly to the community."

Under S.B. 156, following organizations would be allowed to conduct, operate, or sponsor bazaars or raffles if the town where they are located has adopted the Bazaar and Raffles Act: veterans, religious, civic, fraternal, educational, and charitable organizations; volunteer fire companies; political parties; and town committees. Raffles could also be promoted and conducted if they are sponsored by the town acting through a designated centennial, bicentennial, or other centennial celebration committee. To conduct a bazaar or raffle, an organization must have a local permit.